

Listing of the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Claims 1-3 (canceled)

Claim 4 (currently amended): A process for performing a plurality of operations on an envelope having a flap and a body with a crease line therebetween, which operations are performed at respective spaced-apart locations and are associated with the crease line, comprising the steps of

(a) feeding the envelope unflapped, with the crease line trailing, towards a first said location;

(b) sensing the passage of the envelope towards the first said location and stopping the envelope when the crease line has been sensed, the stopped position of the crease line comprising a datum position therefor;

(c) moving the envelope by respective drive means such that the crease line is disposed at a second location and at a respective distance from the datum position and performing a respective operations on the envelope;

(d) moving the envelope by respective drive means such that the crease line is disposed at a third location and at a respective distance from the datum position and performing a respective operation on the envelope, and so on until the plurality of operations has been performed;

and wherein for movement of any envelope between two successive locations, and irrespective of the length of the elongate element, the respective drive means is actuated identically for moving the envelope a predetermined distance with respect to each said respective drive means.

Claim 5 (original): A process as claimed in claim 4, wherein at one said location the respective operation comprises flapping the envelope.

Claim 6 (original): A process as claimed in claim 5, wherein at the next said location to

which the envelope is moved the respective operation is an insertion operation.

Claim 7 (original): A process as claimed in claim 6, wherein the envelope is subsequently moistened and including the step of urging the envelope towards a moistening element when the crease line is in a predetermined position whereby to moisten a predetermined part of the envelope.

Claim 8 (original): A process as claimed in claim 7, wherein the envelope is subsequently sealed, including the step of causing buckling of the envelope when the crease line is in a predetermined position and urging the crease line into a sealing means.

Claims 9-10 (canceled)

Claim 12 (new): A process as claimed in claim 8 and including the step of actuating an inducer facilitating said buckling when the crease line is in the predetermined position.